

## CHAPTER NO. 115

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1158

By Representative Coleman

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1171

By Senator Kurita

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-6-204, relative to the practice of medicine.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-6-204(d)(7), is amended by adding the following as an appropriately designated subdivision:

( ) "Psychiatrist" means a physician who has completed a residency in psychiatry and whose practice is primarily limited to psychiatry.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-6-204, is amended by adding a new subsection (d), and redesignating existing subsections (d) and (e) as (e) and (f):

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a community mental health center as defined in § 33-1-101(6) from employing a psychiatrist provided that the employment relationship between the psychiatrist and the community mental health center is evidenced by a written contract, job description or documentation, containing language which does not restrict the psychiatrist from exercising independent medical judgment in diagnosing and treating patients.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: April 28, 2003**

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

**APPROVED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2003**

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR